Behind schedule projects under NHDP

719. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA:
SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether 150 ongoing projects under National Highway Development Project (NHDP) are running behind schedule;

(b) if so, the details thereof, like dates of starting and completion, the present status, by when it is expected to be completed, project-wise;

(c) the price escalation thereof, project-wise;

(d) whether any officials/contractors have been held responsible for delay and penalized;

(e) in how many cases, escalation has been paid to the contractors and the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps taken to improve the above dismal scenario?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH) : (a) and (b) There are 145 NHDP projects running behind schedule. The total length of these projects is 5311 km out of which 2943 km have already been completed. The project-wise details of date of start and anticipated date of completion, the present status are given at [See Appendix 218 Annexure No.3].

(c) to (e) Escalations due to delay are paid as per contract provision. In case the project is delayed due to reasons attributable to the contractor, liquidated damages are imposed and no escalation is paid. Escalations are paid only in case where the delay is beyond the control of the contractor. The overall escalation can only be calculated after completion of the projects. Due to delay in completion of projects 25 contracts have been terminated by NHAI. Further due to consistent non-performance in construction 20 contractors were also been declared non-performer and debarred from bidding in NHAI projects.

(f) In order to expedite implementation of projects regional offices have been set up by NHAI headed by Chief General Managers. Adequate power have been delegated to the Chief General Mangers who will monitor land acquisition matters as well as implementation of projects. Special land acquisition units are also being set up to expedite land acquisition. State Governments have been requested to appoint Chief Secretaries of State as Nodal officers for NHDP projects.

Collection of toll taxes on Delhi-Gurgaon Highway

†720. SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that toll taxes are collected at various places on Delhi-Gurgaon Express Highway;

(b) if so, whether the task of collection has been entrusted to private sector;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the names of the institutions involved;

(d) whether it is also a fact that many a time changes have been made in toll collection during the last two years;

(e) if so, the details of the authority responsible for making these changes; and

(f) the details of the changes made so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH) : (a) Yes Sir. Toll fee is being collected at three locations *viz*., toll plaza at Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGI) loop, Delhi-Haryana Border and Khedkidola on Delhi-Gurgaon Express Highway.

(b) and (c) This stretch has been developed and maintained by the Concessionaire, M/s Jaypee-DSC Venture Ltd. on BOT (Toll) basis. Toll Fee is being collected by the Concessionaire as per the concession agreement.

(d) to (f) As per provisions in the concession agreement, Toll Fee is revised every year from 1st April based on Wholesale Price Index (WPI). National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) is the authority for making such changes. The changes have been made in April, 2008 and April, 2009 after opening of project facility in January, 2008.

Clearance for NHs proposals

721. SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some of the roads which satisfy the criteria laid down by the Government of India for declaring as National Highways and proposed by the State Government, are languishing for clearance in his Ministry for nearly two years from now;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal sent by the State for declaring them as National Highways; and

(c) the action that has so far been taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH) : (a) to (c) The Ministry has received a large number of proposals from various State Governments for declaration of State roads/routes as new National Highways. The details of the proposal sent by the State Governments for declaring them as National Highways is given in Statement (*See* below). Expansion of NH network is a continuous process and declaration of New NH is taken up from time to time depending upon requirement of connectivity, *inter-se* priority and availability of funds.